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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|            |   |   |   |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Art Unit   | : | 1745  | Customer No.: 035811                          |
| Examiner   | : | Stephen J. Kalafut  |   |
| Serial No. | : | 10/078,737  |   |
| Filed      | : | February 19, 2002   |   |
| Inventors  | : | Kenji Takao<br>Takeshi Yokota<br>Osamu Furukimi<br>Shin Ishikawa<br>Kazuhide Ishii<br>Shigeru Takano                          | Docket No.: 1016-02<br>Confirmation No.: 4935 |
| Title      | : | STAINLESS STEEL SEPARATOR FOR FUEL<br>CELLS, METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME,<br>AND SOLID POLYMER FUEL CELL<br>INCLUDING THE SAME | Dated: June 8, 2004                           |

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Sir:

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Information Disclosure Statement  
Form PTO-1449 w/copies of publications (2)  
Copy of European Search Report

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

Name of Applicant, Assignee, Applicant's Attorney  
or Registered Representative:

Piper Rudnick LLP  
Customer No. 035811

By: \_\_\_\_\_ *[Signature]*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *8 Jun 2004*



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Examiner : Stephen J. Kalafut  
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: Takeshi Yokota  
: Osamu Furukimi Confirmation No.: 4935  
: Shin Ishikawa  
: Kazuhide Ishii  
: Shigeru Takano  
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: CELLS, METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME,  
: AND SOLID POLYMER FUEL CELL  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicants submits herewith Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the publications listed therein. A copy of the European Patent Office Search Report dated May 9, 2000 is also enclosed. The documents are submitted to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. The enclosed publications are believed related in view of their mention in the Search Report for the reasons stated.

Applicants certify that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from any foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months ago.

Also enclosed is the required fee of \$180.00. If, however, this check is inadvertently not

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enclosed or is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-2719. This authorization is made in duplicate.

The Applicants respectfully requests that this Information Disclosure Statement be officially entered into the file and that appropriate notification be made that it was considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



T. Daniel Christenbury  
Reg. No. 31,750  
Attorney for Applicants

TDC:cc  
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Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
JUN 14 2004  
LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

JUN 14 2004  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

|                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>1016-02  | SERIAL NO.<br>10/078,737 |
| APPLICANT Kenji Takao et al. |                          |
| FILING DATE<br>02/19/02      | GROUP<br>1745            |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL* |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   | AA |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AB |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AC |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AD |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AE |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AF |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AG |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AH |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AI |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AJ |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   | AK |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION   |    |
|--|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|---------------|----|
|  |    |                 |          |         |       |          | YES           | NO |
|  | AL | 2000-239806     | 09/05/00 | JP      |       |          | Abstract only |    |
|  | AM | 1 046 723 A1    | 10/25/00 | EP      |       |          |               |    |
|  | AN |                 |          |         |       |          |               |    |
|  | AO |                 |          |         |       |          |               |    |
|  | AP |                 |          |         |       |          |               |    |

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|  | AR |  |
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|  | AS |  |
|  |    |  |
|  | AT |  |
|  |    |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.